charge per unit comes to Rs. 0.92/unit at 80% PLF. The variable charges depend on the cost of fuel. The variable charges paid during 2003-04 was Rs. 3.87/unit and during 2004-05 (Upto June, 2004) it was Rs. 3.17/unit.

Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) is not purchasing electricity from Hydroelectric Stations of other agencies.

In order to bring down the cost of Kayamkulam Power, Kerala has been allocated 110 MW from NTPC stations in Eastern Region for pooling with Kayamkulam Power *vide* order dated 24.02.2005.

Investment for increasing hydro power production

†260. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to pay special attention for investment in private sector to increase hydro power production in order to achieve better position in power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are also taking action to bring down expenditure in production of power; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Government of India has accorded priority to Hydro Sector and has taken a number of measures to promote development of Hydro-electric projects. A hydro policy was annnounced in August, 1998 on hydro power development which among others, emphasized the need for private sector participation. The policy envisaged that private investment through IPPs and joint ventures would be encouraged in the coming years and the required policy environment, incentives and relieves would be provided to stimulate and maintain a trend in this direction. Hydro electric schemes in private sector commissioned and cleared by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) since 1991 is given in the Statement (See below). Under the 50,000 MW Hydroelectric Initiative launched by the Government of India in May, 2003, Preliminary Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 162 schemes, spread over 16

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

States with an aggregate installed capacity of 47,930 MW, have been prepared. Out of these 73 low tariff schemes with an aggregate installed capacity of 33,000 MW (approx.) have been taken up initially, for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) which is the next step for development of these projects; Private sector would also be encouraged to participate in the implementation of these schemes.

(c) and (d) Efforts are being made to reduce the cost of hydro projects through close monitoring by CEA at various levels to check time & cost overruns and use of latest investigation & construction techniques/equipments etc. in order to condense the construction period. Power Finance Corporation is also now providing long term loans for hydro power projects for a period of upto 20 years, at interest rates of 7.25%—9.5%.

In addition, an Inter Institutional Group (IIG) was constituted in January, 2004 to facilitate financial closure of private sector projects. The IIG has provided a forum for interaction amongst promoters of power projects, banks and financial institutions and the Ministry of Power. The IIG has been instrumental in bringing about speedy financial closure of 11 private power projects having a total capacity of about 4000 MW and another 8 projects with an aggregate capacity of 9565 MW.

Statement

List of Hydor Electric Schemes in Private Sector since 1991

SI. No.	Name of the project/ State	No. of units (xMW)	Capacity (MW)	Name of Promoter
COMMISSIONED				
1.	Tawa, M.P.	2 X 6.75	13.5	M/s. Hindustan Electric Graphite Ltd.
2.	Malana. H.P.	2X43	86	M/s. Malana Power Corporation Ltd.
3.	BaspaSt.ll,H.P.	3X100	300	M/s. Jalprakash -Industries Ltd.
	TOTAL		399.50	
CLEARED BY CEA				
1.	Maheshwar, M.P.	10X40	400	M/s. Shri Maheshwar Hydel Power Corpn. Ltd. (Promoted by M/s. S. Kumars Ltd.)

SI. No.	Name of the project/ State	No. of units (xMW)	Capacity (MW)	Name of Promoter
2.	Vishnuprayag, Uttaranchal	4X100	400	M/s. Jaiprakash Power Ventres Ltd.
3.	Srinagar, Uttaranchal	4 X 82.5	330	M/s. Duncan North Hydro Power Corp. Ltd. (DNHPC) (Renamed as Alaknanda Power Co Ltd.) (AHPL).
4.	Allain Duhangan, H.P.	2X96	192	M/s. Rajasthan Spinning & Weaving Mills (RSWM) Ltd.
5.	Dhamwari Sunda, H.P.	2X35	70	M/s. Dhanwari Power Corporation Limited
6.	Jalaput Dam Toe, Orissa/Andhra Pradesh	3X6	18	M/s. Orissa Power Consortium Limited
7.	Karcham Wangtoo, H.P.	4X250	1000	M/s. Jaypee Karcham Hydel Power Corp. Ltd.

Use of feedstock for power generation by NTPC

261. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC is considering proposals to use feedstock other than coal to generate power in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details of proposals of NTPC;

(c) what are the reasons for switching from coal to feedstock by NTPC; and

(d) the details of capacity proposed to be added by NTPC through such power plants?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) While NTPC has mainly taken up coal based power projects, it has also considered/implemented natural gas/liquid fuels based capacity addition depending on availability of key inputs including fuels at reasonable rates, environmental considerations, gestation period, thermal efficiency and overall techno-economic viability. Further, NTPC has also taken up hydro based capacity addition and in this regard, Koidam Hydroelectric Power Project (800 MW) is already under construction.